

# Richard Posner

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**Richard A. Posner**

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Following his graduation from Harvard Law School, Judge Posner clerked for Justice William J. Brennan Jr. From 1963-65, he was assistant to Commissioner Philip Elman of the Federal Trade Commission. For the next two years he was assistant to the solicitor general of the United States. Prior to going to Stanford Law School in 1968 as associate professor, Judge Posner served as general counsel of the President's Task Force on Communications Policy. He first came to the Law School in 1969, and was Lee and Brena Freeman Professor of Law prior to his appointment in 1981 as a judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. He was the chief judge of the court from 1993 to 2000.

Judge Posner has written a number of books, including *Economic Analysis of Law* (6th ed., 2003), *The Economics of Justice* (1981), *Law and Literature* (2d ed. 1997), *The Problems of Jurisprudence* (1990), *Cardozo: A Study in Reputation* (1990), *The Essential Holmes* (1992), *Sex and Reason* (1992), *Overcoming Law* (1995), *The Federal Courts: Challenge and Reform* (1996), *Law and Legal Theory in England and America* (1996), *The Problematics of Moral and Legal Theory* (1999), *Antitrust Law* (2d ed. 2001), *Law, Pragmatism, and Democracy* (2003), *Catastrophe: Risk and Response* (2004), *Preventing Surprise Attacks: Intelligence Reform in the Wake of 9/11* (2005), as well as books on the Clinton impeachment and Bush v. Gore, and many articles in legal and economic journals and book reviews in the popular press. He has taught administrative law, antitrust, economic analysis of law, history of legal thought, conflict of laws, regulated industries, law and literature, the legislative process, family law, primitive law, torts, civil procedure, evidence, health law and economics, law and science, and jurisprudence. He was the founding editor of the *Journal of Legal Studies* and (with Orley Ashenfelter) the *American Law and Economics Review*. He is an Honorary Bencher of the Inner Temple and a corresponding fellow of the British Academy, and he was the President of the American Law and Economics Association 1995 - 1996 and the honorary President of the Bentham Club of University College, London, for 1998. He has received a number of awards, including the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation Award in Law from the University of Virginia in 1994, the Marshall-Wythe Medallion from the College of William and Mary in 1998, the 2003 Research Award from the Fellows of the American Bar Foundation, also in 2003 the John Sherman Award from the U.S. Department of Justice, the Learned Hand Medal for Excellence in Federal Jurisprudence from the Federal bar Council in 2005, and, also in 2005, the Thomas C. Schelling Award from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

**Born:** 1939.

**Education:** -A.B., 1959, Yale University; LL.B., 1962, Harvard University; LL.D. (Hon.), 1986, Syracuse University; LL.D. (Hon.), 1987, Duquesne University; LL.D. (Hon.), 1993, Georgetown University; Dr. Honoris Causa, 1995, University of Ghent; LL.D. (Hon.), 1996, Yale University; LL.D. (Hon.), 1997, University of Pennsylvania; J.D. (Hon.), 2000, Brooklyn Law School; LL.D. (Hon.), 2001, Northwestern University; LL.D. (Hon.), 2002, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; D. Hon. Causa, 2002, University of Athens.